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THURSDAY,
MAY 7, 2020

Tomorrow's weather 49 | 32



Pulse of Wabash

Attention Class of 2020

The Wabash Plain Dealer is launching an interactive campaign to celebrate our Wabash County seniors! With COVID-19 disrupting graduation plans and daily life for our students, we want to do something special to commemorate their hard work and memories. We are posting photo challenges at www.facebook.com/wabashpd and the best submissions will be featured on our website and in a special section published at the end of the school year. Submit your favorite memories to news@wabashplaindealer.com or post your memories and photos to your social media page using the hashtag #WCClassof2020 to participate.

Notice to readers

To reduce risks to our employees and community, the Wabash Plain Dealer is closed to the public until further notice. Payments may be dropped in the mail slot or called in. For news, call 260-225-4662 or email news@wabashplaindealer.com. For advertising, call 260-225-4947 or email tcampbell@pmgini.com. For circulation and customer support, call 260-563-2131. To bring you the most accurate information about the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, the Wabash Plain Dealer has decided to prioritize news content over sports stories since sporting events are canceled for the time being. The Wabash Plain Dealer is committed to providing the best product to its customers and appreciates the support during this time. Thank you.

Gov. Holcomb announces stages of reopening plan

Hoosiers 65 and over and those with high-risk health conditions – who are the most vulnerable to the coronavirus – should remain at home. Essential travel restrictions are lifted, and social gatherings of up to 25 people are permitted following the CDC's social distancing guidelines. The remaining manufacturers, industrial and other infrastructure operations that had not been considered essential may open. Hoosiers who can work from home are encouraged to continue to do so. Retail and commercial businesses may open at 50 percent capacity. Examples include apparel, furniture, jewelry and liquor stores that have been operating as curbside or delivery only. Shopping malls can open at 50 percent capacity with indoor common

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Absentee, early, in-person voting details announced

County Clerk: 813 applications processed so far for June 2 primary election

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Lori Draper, Wabash County clerk, has announced absentee, early and in-person details for voters in the upcoming June 2 primary election.

In response to a Plain Dealer request Wednesday, Draper stated they had so far processed 813 applications.

Draper stated in the 2016 presidential election they had 137 votes in the primary by mail and in 2018, which was the last county and state general election, there were 68 votes in the primary by mail.

Draper stated early voting in the office in 2016 was 2,059, which was for the four weeks preceding the election. In 2018, there

were 1,594 early votes for the four weeks preceding the election.

"As the county's election administrator, the county clerks are committed to providing a safe and secure election," stated Draper.

"Registered voters who feel comfortable being in public, may vote in person. However, any registered voter may vote by absentee for

the June 2 primary election by requesting an absentee ballot."

To request an absentee-by-mail application, call 260-563-0661 ext. 1238 or visit <https://indianavoters.in.gov>.

Ballot applications for voting by mail must be received by Thursday, May 21.

See VOTING, page A3

Roann library continues curbside service

WCPL, NMPL begin pick up soon

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

As the Wabash Carnegie Public Library (WCPL) and North Manchester Public Library begin their curbside service, the Roann Paw Paw Township Public Library began Monday, May 4, stated Joy Harber, director, in a Wednesday statement to the Plain Dealer.

WCPL

In a statement to the Plain Dealer on Wednesday, Ware W. Wimberly III, WCPL executive director, stated patrons could request print or audio books by phone or online.

"We will let you know when you can pick your order up at the Hill Street entrance of the library," he stated.

Wimberly stated curbside service will be available from noon to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

"Orders will be labeled in bags and left on a table in front of the library at a scheduled time. Any orders not delivered by 4 p.m. on the assigned day will be canceled and the items will be reshelved," he stated.

For more information, call 260-563-2972.

NMPL

In response to a Plain Dealer request Monday, Jeanna Hann, NMPL adult department manager and marketing coordinator, stated curbside service began Wednesday, May 6.

Hann stated library patrons can place material requests online on the library website by visiting www.nman.lib.in.us or by calling 260-982-4773. The first pick up day will be Monday, May 11 from noon to 4 p.m. The library will loan out books, DVDs, laptops, WiFi hotspots and iPads to all card-holding patrons. Patrons will be limited to 10 items per car.

Due dates and fines are as follows:

- Books: Three-week check out, no late fees.
- DVDs: Three days for new DVDs (with yellow tape), one week for old DVDs (without yellow tape) and a \$5 late fee per day, per item.
- WiFi Hotspots: One-week check-out and a \$5 late

See CURBSIDE, page A2

National Guard continues Second Harvest Food Bank assistance



Thirty members of the National Guard have been on-site at their facility since April 7.

Provided photo

Next Tailgate Food Distribution event set for Friday

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Second Harvest Food Bank has announced a Tailgate Food Distribution event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, May 8 at Living Well in Wabash, 239 Bond St., according to Tracy Dishman, marketing director.

Dishman stated no IDs, proof of address or need are required, and all are welcome.

"Distribution is while supplies last. We are requesting that attendees only go through the line one time so we can serve everyone,"

See FOOD, page A3



Second Harvest Food Bank has announced a Tailgate Food Distribution event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, May 8 at Living Well in Wabash, 239 Bond St.

See CURBSIDE, page A2

Lawson joins task force aiming to crack down on COVID-19 investment scams

Members are using online investigative techniques

STAFF REPORT

The Indiana Secretary of State's Office has announced that it has joined an international enforcement task force organized by the North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA) to investigate fraudsters looking to capitalize during the novel coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, according to Ian Hauer, dep-

uty communications director.

Through the Indiana Securities Division, the Secretary's office is a member of NASAA, the membership organization of state and provincial securities regulators in the United States, Canada and Mexico. The task force consists of state and provincial securities regulators and was formed to identify and stop potential threats to investors stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hauer stated task force members are using online

The city celebrates graduating seniors with downtown banners

STAFF REPORT

The city of Wabash, along with Visit Wabash County is pleased to announce that banners celebrating graduating high school students throughout Wabash County will replace the city seal banners that proudly hang in downtown Wabash, according to Maria Smyth, mayor's coordinator.

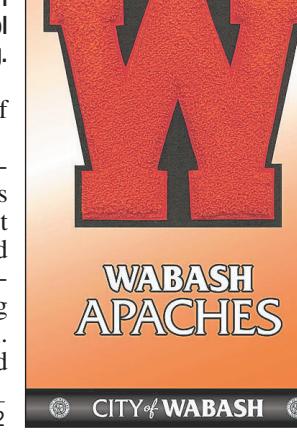
"This is a time where our seniors should be recognized for reaching a significant milestone in their lives," stated Mayor Scott Long. "The banners are a simple way to acknowledge their accomplishments and serve as a reminder that the

Provided graphic
Banners celebrating the graduating classes from Wabash High School, Southwood High School, Northfield High School, Manchester High School, Emmanuel Christina High School and White's High School will be hung.

city of Wabash is proud of them."

The 'City Seal' and 'Welcome' banners served as placeholder banners that come down each winter and are replaced by the Christmas decorations that hang during the holiday season. They will be removed, and

See BANNERS, page A2



CITY of WABASH

Indiana health officials report

51 more coronavirus deaths

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana health officials on Wednesday added 51 coronavirus deaths to the state's death toll, raising it to 1,264 since the state's first death was recorded about seven weeks ago.

Most of the newly reported COVID-19 deaths occurred Monday or Tuesday, but one dated to April 20, according to the Indiana State Department of Health.

Travel and business restrictions eased Monday across most of the state under a new order from Gov. Eric Holcomb. He has cited a stabilization in the number of coronavirus patients being treated in intensive care units and on ventilators for allowing gradual lifting of those restrictions.

The latest state statistics showed 525 COVID-19 patients were in the intensive care units of Indiana

hospitals and that 41 percent of ICU beds remained available as of Tuesday. That's 46 more coronavirus patients in those ICUs than on Monday, but 104 fewer than on April 23.

The state health department also has recorded 113 presumed deaths of people with COVID-19, the respiratory disease caused by the virus. Those are deaths that state officials said doctors blame on coronavirus infections without confirmation of the illness from test results.

Indianapolis officials are keeping the city's stay-at-home order and restrictions on nonessential businesses in place through at least next week even as statewide rules aimed at slowing the coronavirus spread have been eased.

The governor's new statewide order allows Indianapolis to begin lifting restrictions on Monday, but

Mayor Joe Hogsett said Wednesday that the tougher city rules would continue until May 15. Hogsett cited the population density of the state's largest city for keeping restrictions that have been relaxed in the city's surrounding suburbs. City officials are also continuing a ban on religious services that are being allowed beginning Friday in much of the state by Gov. Eric Holcomb's order.

A plan for easing restrictions in the city should be released early next week, said Dr. Virginia Caine, director of the Marion County Public Health Department.

"If we do not continue to adhere to social distancing, if we do not let science and health data guide our decision making, any glimpse of reopening will not be permanent and our community members will suffer," Caine said.

Emerging virus aid bill aims to help cities, Postal Service

By ANDREW TAYLOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Although timing for the House's return isn't set, the outlines are emerging for a Democratic-driven bill to aid states and local governments, the Postal Service, and boost contact tracing to track the coronavirus.

Democratic leaders promise that the House will deliver legislation to help state and local governments through the COVID-19 crisis as early as next week, though the measure is still being drafted by committee chairs and party leaders like Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

No. 2 House Democrat Steny Hoyer said Wednesday that party leadership is hoping for bipartisan backing for the upcoming bill, the fifth effort to respond to the devastation COVID-19 has delivered to the economy and U.S. life. Ultimately, it'll take arduous bipartisan negotiations to produce a bill but the right dynamic hasn't caught fire yet.

Hoyer said he backs \$500 billion in aid to state and local governments with a supplemental aid package for smaller cities left out of previous aid bills. He said the measure would bail out the Postal Service, contain funding for absentees voting this fall, and other priorities like advanced tracing to monitor the virus as states try to open up without sparking a second wave.

Trump took to Twitter on Tuesday with a repackaged set of demands.

"Well run States should not be bailing out poorly run States, using CoronaVirus as the excuse! The elimination of Sanctuary Cities, Payroll Taxes, and perhaps Capital Gains Taxes, must be put on the table," Trump tweeted.

Romney on Tuesday urged his colleagues to pass additional state aid, with a chart titled "Blue states aren't the only ones who are screwed," based on Moody's Analytics data showing Louisiana, Missouri, Florida, Kansas, and Kentucky competing with New York and New Jersey and the states facing the worst revenue shortfalls.

Details on the package are a ways away, but it's likely to be anchored by money for state and local governments, including smaller cities. Business interests are pushing hard for additional operating subsidies and relief from COVID-19-related lawsuits.

Senate Republicans are frustrated by a negotiating dynamic on previous bills

that empowered Democrats and sent costs spiraling. But they're reluctant to unleash federal funds beyond the nearly \$3 trillion Congress has already approved for virus relief.

Grassley, for instance, said that "I don't think we ought to right now decide that there is going to be a phase 4."

Ultimately, the legislation is likely to be shaped most by a familiar quartet of congressional leaders including Pelosi and McConnell and top Trump administration officials like Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin.

But getting talks to critical mass can be a tricky, arduous process given the web of rivalries and internal party considerations involved. Trump's political fortunes and a spate of bad GOP polling adds new uncertainty.

For her part, Pelosi recognizes that any bill drafted by Democrats will need more thorough culling than early Democratic efforts, which came under GOP attack for easy-to-criticize items like aid to Washington, D.C.'s Kennedy Center and material taken from the so-called Green New Deal.

Pelosi advised her colleagues in a caucus-wide call this week to think big — but be realistic, reminding them that Democrats will have to dial things down.

"I think all of us are going to get our papers graded in November based on how we responded. This is going to be the dominant issue in every election in the country," Cornyn said.

A freshman Republican senator, Missouri's Josh Hawley, said: "If we enter a long-term recession or depression, the concerns we have about deficit spending now are going to look like a walk in the park."

One idea gaining traction among Republicans is to allow greater flexibility on \$150 billion in aid that's already been delivered to states and larger cities. That money is supposed to be used to pay for COVID-19 response, but governors in some states won't be able to use it all for that purpose and want to use it to make up for revenues lost as the country slides into recession.

Some Republicans such as Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah and a group of GOP governors want to be more generous to states confronting furloughs and cuts to services as revenues plummet and unemployment insurance and other costs

are a ways away, but it's likely to be anchored by money for state and local governments, including smaller cities. Business interests are pushing hard for additional operating subsidies and relief from COVID-19-related lawsuits.

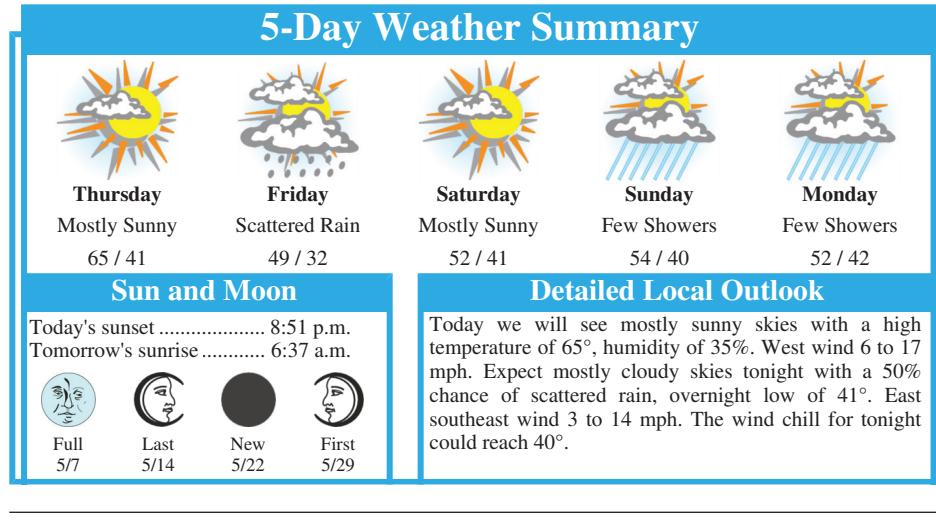
Senate Republicans are frustrated by a negotiating dynamic on previous bills

for his time and design expertise, Mosier Tarps, Dynamic Designs by Dyson, and Visit Wabash County for helping execute the project, and the Wabash City Street Department for the installation. The mayor would also like to recognize each of the school corporations for their leadership during such an unprecedented time," stated Smyth.

For information, visit VisitWabashCounty.com.

in their place will hang banners celebrating the graduating classes from Wabash High School, Southwood High School, Northfield High School, Manchester High School, Emmanuel Christina High School and White's High School.

"Mayor Long would like to thank Eric Schoening of Vertical Commu-

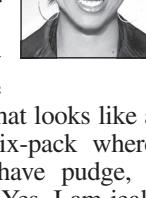


Reader needs motivation to get in shape

DEAR HARRIETTE: I have a friend who posts on social media regularly. Over the past few months, he has lost about 40

Harriette Cole

Sense & Sensitivity



I am inspired by him — but not enough to actually get up and do anything for myself.

When I saw his picture

today with what looks like a burgeoning six-pack where he used to have pudge, I nearly lost it. Yes, I am jealous. I don't mean to be, but I am not motivated at all to get up and do anything. I can't figure out how he got so pumped to work out and I didn't. Now that I am stuck at home, it's only gotten worse. I probably have gained 20 pounds as he continues to lose. What can I do to turn myself around? — Need Motivation

DEAR NEED MOTIVATION:

Go stand in front of the mirror. Look closely at yourself, and ask if you deserve to be healthy. Look long and hard at yourself. The motivation has to come from within.

Something happened in your friend's life to jump-start his fitness routine. What can it be for you? Ask yourself if your life is worth saving and strengthening. Really. Encourage yourself to do one thing each day that will benefit your health.

Even now when you are at home, you can choose to make smarter choices that will be good for your body. That may include drinking more water and fewer sugary drinks; getting up and stretching before you sit down; or putting on a mask or face covering and taking a 15-minute walk in your neighborhood. Start small and safe. You can begin to improve your health.

You may want to contact your friend. Ask him what happened to get him started. His personal story may inspire you. To learn some easy at-home exercise routines, check out active.com/fitness/articles/20-minute-bodyweight-workout-for-weight-loss.

DEAR HARRIETTE: A good friend was just diagnosed with diabetes. He was very sick but is on the mend now.

I have been talking to him a lot, kind of like a cheerleader. What I haven't done yet is reveal that I, too, have diabetes. I am a very private person.

son, and I don't talk about it at all. I take my medicine and follow directions to the best of my abilities. Am I being a hypocrite by not sharing that part of my story with him? I have been a good listener for him. He sounds like he appreciates my attentiveness, but deep inside I know that I have left out a pretty significant detail in my own story. Should I tell him? — Keeping Secrets

DEAR KEEPING SECRETS:

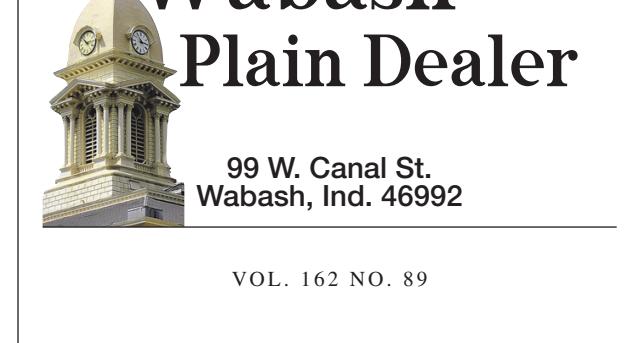
You can support your friend without talking about your own health. That is your prerogative. Being a good listener is invaluable, and I bet he appreciates you.

What you may also want to do is ask yourself why you have chosen not to tell your story. It can be helpful to talk with other people about your health

journey. When times get tough, having someone who can also hear your side of things may inspire you to be more vigilant in your health regimen. Explore why you have chosen to remain silent. Even if you decide not to tell this friend, you should find another confidant. When you talk about your challenges, you can grow stronger.

By the way, that confidant could be the social worker from your health care provider's office. Next time you get a check-in call from them, answer the phone!

Harriette Cole is a hairstylist and founder of DREAMLEAPERS, an initiative to help people access and activate their dreams. You can send questions to askharriette@harriettecole.com or c/o Andrews McMeel Syndication, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.



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BANNERS

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Phillip Grindle

May 8, 1933 - May 4, 2020

Phil was born near Fairmount, Indiana, to Jacob O. and Marcille (Vetor) Grindle, on May 8, 1933. He graduated from Fairmount High School in 1951 and served in the army from 1953-1955, stationed in Korea. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in education from Ball State University in 1960 and received his Master's degree in 1966. On July 28, 1956, he married Lois Gardner, and she survives.

He taught Industrial Arts at Wabash Jr/Sr High School for 34 years. He was also an Assistant Varsity Football coach at Wabash and taught adult woodworking at Heartland Vocational School. He belonged to the ISTA, Izaak Walton League, American Legion, and VFW.

Phil was a member of First United Methodist Church in Wabash, and he was an avid gardener, fisherman, and woodworker. He passed at home peacefully with his family present on Monday, May 4, 2020.

He is survived by his wife Lois (Gardner); daughter Elaine (Marvin) Vincent of Martinsville, IN; grandson Eric (Casey) Vincent, Greenwood, IN; great-grandsons Carter and Maddox Vincent; granddaughter Leslie (Scott) Kulig, Indianapolis, IN.

Kathryn Gillespie Huntington

Kathryn Gillespie Huntington passed away at Peabody Retirement Community, North Manchester, IN on Monday, May 4, 2020 where she had resided for the past 16 years.

She is survived by her devoted son, Mark (Karen) Huntington of North Manchester, Indiana, two grandchildren, David Huntington of North Manchester

and Erin (Jason) Abell of Farmington Hills, MI, two step-grandchildren, Garrett and Oliver Labuda, two great-grandchildren, and former daughter-in-law Cheryl French of North Manchester. Kathryn's husband preceded her in death in 2005.

A memorial service will be held at Peabody Home Memorial Chapel, North Manchester at a later date.

risk that you may potentially lose some or all of your money. Anyone who says their investment offer has no risk is lying. No one can guarantee an investment return.

2. Is there a sense of urgency or limited availability of detailed information surrounding the investment? If someone offers you a "can't miss" investment opportunity and pressures you to invest right now, don't be afraid to walk away.

3. Is the person offering the investment, and the investment itself, properly licensed or registered? For the same reasons you wouldn't go to an unlicensed doctor or dentist, you should avoid unregistered investment salespeople and their products.

Hauer stated investors who see or suspect they fell victim to COVID-19 related investment scams can contact the Division at securities.sos.in.gov.

Voting will also take place at this location from 8 a.m. to noon Monday, June 1.

"Clerks will comply with all CDC recommendations and guidelines to minimize public health risks while providing in-person voting or for those working as election workers," stated Draper.

On June 2, Election Day, the only two places open to vote in Wabash County will be O J Neighbors School gymnasium at 1545 N Wabash St., and North Manchester High School gymnasium, 1 Squire Drive, North Manchester.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

No school-made gifts for mom this year. Dads, get to work

By JOSH CORNFIELD

Associated Press

PRINCETON, N.J. — At first, the Facebook meme made me laugh: "What are dads going to do when they realize their kids aren't bringing home any Mother's Day gifts from school?"

Then it hit me: What AM I going to do?!

Most years, my wife and I keep gifts basic. Flowers and a Sunday together with family is usually just right. The (sometimes) cute presents the kids make at school provide a fun moment of "awwww," followed by a year of figuring out where to put them so they're both seen and out of the way.

This Mother's Day, of course, is different.

Not only has Abby been a patient and caring mother to our 8- and 5-year-old sons over these last seven weeks of quarantine, she's also been their part-time teacher, play date, gym partner and best friend. And she's done it all while working full-time from the dining room table, juggling Zoom calls with her second-grade class and keeping our own second grader from smashing his computer during calls.

So just because there are no handmade presents from art class this year doesn't mean we can go into Mother's Day empty-handed. We dads have to figure it out.

Let's get to work.

STEP ONE: Take a breath. It's not that hard...

STEP TWO: What are you talking about? What do I know about arts and crafts? The last time I tried to make something with popsicle sticks, half of them cracked and the other half were glued to my fingers.

Dads, we need a plan.

STEP THREE: Make it easy on yourself, and go to those in charge: Ask the kids what to make.

Depending on how old they are, you may need to guide this conversation. Otherwise,

you could get what I got talking with 5-year-old Oren.

Me: "Oren, what do you want to make mommy for Mother's Day?"

Oren: "Let's make her a car. A car out of food."

Me: "How about a card out of food?"

Oren: "No, it has to be a car. But wait. Can I tell you what we're making the wheels out of? Not eggs because if we made it out of eggs they would crack. We're making

it out of apples!"

Me: "Can we please make her a card out of food?"

Oren: "No!! It has to be my choice. We're making a car. Or a plane."

This is a good time for a couple of reminders:

1. Sometimes you have to overrule your 5-year-old. We're making a card.

2. It's Mother's Day, so let her sleep as long as she wants. THEN the kids can start making things out of food.

STEP FOUR: Remember to get all of your kids involved. Jacob, 8, has been working on his cooking skills, so he'll handle some of that.

And he also has a more

high-tech idea. While each

day for Jacob has come with a burst of anger at all he is missing, he also has been steadily acquiring some tech skills.

Instead of wasting money buying a card, Jacob plans to make his own online. He pulled together pictures and background images, and

will get to spend some time thinking about everything his mom has done for him during the pandemic.

STEP FIVE: Still need help figuring this out? Let's

bring in an expert.

Susan Schwake, an art teacher who works with children and adults in Rutherford, New Hampshire, says it's best to keep things simple.

"If you just let them create, they'll probably create something wonderful," she said this week, in between running art classes over Zoom. "You have to allow them the space to do that."

She suggests that dads step back and make sure kids have the materials they need to let their ideas come alive. "Don't micromanage it," she says.

Paint and crayons will get the job done, and Schwake also offers a simple recipe for making clay on the

stove (baking soda, corn

starch and water) for things like hand-printed discs, for younger kids.

"These kind of things are simple, but I think that they are the things that we treasure most," says the mother of two adult children.

You can find similar DIY recipes and ideas on YouTube and other online sites.

Good luck, dads, and know that by the time you're done, you'll be ready for the next job: gifts for grandmom.

Small businesses cut jobs while waiting for government loans

By JOYCE M. ROSENBERG

Associated Press

NEW YORK — While thousands of small businesses waited for coronavirus relief money to arrive, they were shutting down and laying off workers.

Two reports issued this week shed light on the crisis that business owners have been struggling through since the coronavirus hit. On Wednesday, payroll provider ADP said its small business customers slashed more than 11 million jobs in April as they were forced to close or suffered steep revenue losses amid the virus outbreak.

And nearly 30 percent of businesses questioned for a U.S. Chamber of Commerce-MetLife report said they had closed during April, a statistic that helps explain the big drop in payrolls last month. The survey was taken from April 21-27 and questioned 500 companies.

The survey was taken largely during the period when loan approvals were on hold because the first \$349 billion round of funding had been exhausted on April 16. Thousands of applications sat at banks while Congress debated and eventually approved a \$310 billion extension, and approvals resumed on April 27.

As of late Tuesday, the Small Business Administration had approved nearly 2.4 million loans totaling \$181 billion in the second round of

funding. In the first round, it approved 1.7 million loans. The higher number of loans indicates that smaller loans being sought by smaller companies are being approved.

The numbers from both the ADP and Chamber/MetLife reports reflect the social distancing restrictions state and local governments began implementing in mid to late March, which forced the closure of many small businesses including stores, restaurants, gyms and sports and entertainment venues.

But officials in many areas have begun relaxing those restrictions, which may lead to a reversal of some of the job losses.

However, even companies that remained open have been losing business as customers stayed home or cut back their spending. While companies that cater to consumers have been hard hit, businesses that serve other businesses also have seen

their revenue drop.

The ADP report counts

jobs lost at the payroll

provider's business customers with under 500 workers. The smallest companies, those with fewer than 20 workers, cut nearly 3.4 million jobs and those with 20 to 49 employees cut 2.6 million.

The Labor Department has reported that more than 30 million people have sought unemployment benefits since the virus hit.

April's losses reported by ADP surpassed the 170,000 jobs cut in March. By comparison, companies added more than 31,000 jobs on average each month during 2019.

ADP also tallied more than 20 million jobs lost at all its business customers in April. The Labor Department's April jobs report on Friday will also show the extent of the overall damage to the economy from the virus outbreak.

vest initiatives, including: ■ 4,800 families that are a part of the 35 Second Harvest The Big Idea initiative schools have received 145,000 pounds of food.

■ Agency Partners of Second Harvest include soup kitchens, church pantries and shelters, for example. In this same six week period of time, 90 deliveries have been made to Agency Partners, totaling 45,900 pounds of food.

■ Neighborhood Association leaders in Delaware County can contact Second Harvest and receive a large passenger van full of food to distribute to neighbors in need. 15,000 pounds of food have helped 750 families in this fashion of distribution during the past six weeks.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

FOOD

From page A1

stated Dishman. "If you are walking up or coming via a vehicle too small to carry a load of food, please plan to arrive an hour after the tailgate starts.

For more information, visit www.curehunger.org.

National Guard still assisting

In a statement to the Plain Dealer last month, Beverly Ferry, CEO of Living Well in Wabash County, stated members of the Indiana National Guard's Muncie Armory were in attendance at the most recent Wabash date, along with Wabash City Park employees. Ferry stated the guardspeople were there to assist Second Harvest with several such events in the area.

In response to a Plain Dealer request Monday, April 20, Tim Kean, president and CEO of Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana, stated 30 members of the National Guard have been on-site at their facility since April 7.

"No one should go hungry during the COVID-19 pandemic. With school closures, job disruptions, and health risks, thousands of people in East Central Indiana are turning to Second Harvest Food Bank for much-needed support," stated Dishman. "Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, food bank volunteers are staying home while the need for food is increasing.

Gov. Eric J. Holcomb activated Indiana Citizen-Soldiers to deploy resources to assist food banks in Indiana, including Second Harvest Food Bank of ECI. From the moment they ar-

rived, 30 Army National Guard men and women, who are a part of a Brigade Support Battalion (BSB), have worked with the Second Harvest Food Bank staff to identify the growing needs of the organization."

By the numbers

Dishman stated on a regular schedule before the COVID-19 pandemic, nine Tailgate Food Distribution events were held throughout eight counties per month.

"A Tailgate Distribution event is held at a central location in a drive-thru fashion for everyone experiencing a food insecurity moment," stated Dishman.

"Come as you are."

Dishman stated in the past six weeks, 1,500,000 pounds of food has been distributed during 26 Tailgate Distribution events, as well as, other Second Har-

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact
your legislators:

**U.S. Sen. Todd Young,
R-Ind.**
B33 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

**U.S. Sen. Mike Braun,
R-Ind.**
B85 Russell Senate
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
<http://braun.senate.gov/>

**U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski,
R-District 2**
419 Cannon House
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

**State Sen. Andy Zay,
R-District 17**
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
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Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

**State Rep. David Wolkins,
R-District 18**
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any
Indiana lawmaker,
go to this website:
www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

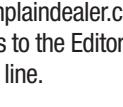
Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

Whoever loves pleasure will be a poor man; he who loves wine and oil will not be rich.

Proverbs 21:17

Washington must help the states and cities

President Donald Trump has made it clear that the states must be the front-line fighters in the war against COVID-19, on everything from testing to ventilators to personal protective equipment.

That makes it all the more incongruous that Republicans are balking at providing states, cities, and towns the resources they need for that battle. Saying "we're not interested in solving their pension problems for them," Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell suggests that fiscally strapped states should consider bankruptcy.

Although Trump maintains he is open to discussing aid for states and cities, he has added his voice to McConnell's partisan refrain, asking via tweet why "the people and taxpayers of America" should "be bailing out poorly run states (like Illinois, as an example) and cities, in all cases Democrat-run and managed, when most of the other states are not looking for bailout help?"

Those comments reflect witness partisanship in a time of crisis. McConnell's remark demonstrates the GOP's animus toward unionized public employees, who tend to be supportive of Democratic candidates; thus the suggestion that their pensions are the proximate cause of looming state fiscal problems.

That notion is simply absurd. States obviously haven't moved from a position of relative fiscal stability to bad budgetary times because of a sudden increase in pension costs. Rather, the cause has been the steep decline in tax revenues because of the economic shutdowns necessitated by the coronavirus crisis.

Overall, income taxes contribute

about 45 percent of cumulative state revenue, with sales taxes another 30 percent, according to the National Association of State Budget Officers. With unemployment heading toward Depression-era levels and many businesses closed, revenues from both are projected to drop steeply. Other taxes and fees collected by states have nosedived as well.

Moody's Analytics predicts that in some states, the effect on the budget will be twice that of the Great Recession. Under its most severe assumptions, Moody's sees the revenue decline driven by COVID-19 and the new spending the crisis requires having a cumulative effect of \$353 billion through the end of fiscal 2021. Extending that through fiscal 2022, the need grows to more than \$450 billion; subtract state reserves, and you have a "27-month forecast shortfall of close to \$300 billion."

Based on new economic forecasts from the Congressional Budget Office, meanwhile, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities calculates a coronavirus-driven fiscal shortfall of \$650 billion over the next three years. Factoring in state reserves and already allocated federal aid, that leaves a gap of at least \$510 billion. Notably, neither estimate includes the needs of cities and towns. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi says cities and towns are asking for a similar amount.

Because most states are required to balance their budgets, without federal help, deficits of that magnitude will inevitably mean deep cuts in important services, from health care to education to public safety to programs for the poor. Those deficits will also spell lay-

offs. In that light, it's important to realize that state and local governments employ some 17.3 million people, or about 11 percent of the country's workforce.

The federal government, however, isn't bound by a balanced budget requirement and thus could play a vital role here. With the yield on treasury bonds at near-record lows, the federal government could easily borrow to help plug state budget gaps for this fiscal year and the next. (State budget cycles generally start in July and end on June 30 of the following year.)

Speaker Pelosi and her House Democrats deferred to the Senate on the last COVID-19 legislation, which funded the Paycheck Protection Program and provided more money for testing but didn't include more dollars for states and cities. Although a previous bill had some such monies, it stipulated that those dollars couldn't be used to pay for regular state expenses.

But Pelosi is adamant that any new legislation must include money for cities and states. She's right to insist on that. Without federal money, states and cities will be left to raise taxes, slash services, and lay off employees, including firefighters, police, and teachers.

Those moves will only worsen suffering and deepen the recession. The only plausible way to avert such large-scale damage is for both parties in Congress to support relief for the states. If the GOP refuses to allocate that aid, voters should place the blame squarely where it belongs: with President Trump and the Republican Senate.

This editorial was first published in the Boston Globe.



Indiana's branding problem

I was going to write a wry but pointed column about Indiana's coming search for a new tourism slogan, something along the lines of, "Wave on your way to Michigan" or, "Thanks for not stopping by."

Our past attempts to snare visitors with a catchy phrase have always come up embarrassingly short. "Honest to Goodness Indiana" conjured up an aw-shucks image of Andy and Gomer whittling on the front porch.

"Restart Your Engines" made it sound like our car might stall once we crossed the state line.

And remember "Wander Indiana"? Boy, there was an invitation to a thrill-a-minute vacation.

Now that Gov. Holcomb has announced the coming end to our house arrest, I thought, perhaps it's time to re-evaluate some of the things that made us self-conscious in the attractive-destination sweepstakes — like the lack of year-round perfect weather, natural wonders and multiple cities large enough to house a snobby elite.

Maybe those are, in fact, good things that we should exploit. Having lots of people around all the time, especially with a high percentage of strangers (who knows where they've been?), just creates a hothouse for nasty viruses. If we'd been a better magnet

for wayfarers, COVID-19 would have hit us a lot harder.

But then I came across a startling statistic.

As of a few weeks ago, in a ranking of states with the highest number of per-capita virus cases, Indiana came in at 15.

Now, maybe that statistic is misleading, or maybe there are other facts that will add greater context, but doesn't that seem a little too high? Shouldn't we have done better than that?

But at least we will be able to find out rather easily once this is all over. A chief virtue of federalism, other than each state being able to craft its own economic development slogan, is that local officials can better respond to local conditions and can be more easily held accountable if they screw up.

Of course, that also means we give those officials a stupefying amount of power in emergencies. For all the federal bloat and promiscuous spending of non-existent money, it is strictly within the purview of Holcomb and the 49 other governors to shut down an economy and then bring it back.

And Holcomb has handled things pretty well. He hasn't become a clout-wielding control freak like some governors or an incompetent buffoon like others. He has behaved reasonably in an unprecedented situation.

His recovery plan could be a tad better, though. Considering the state's economy was destroyed almost in one bold stroke, a

two-month, five-stage crawl-back seems a little plodding, despite overwhelming public support for a gradual return to normality.

And the plan is so nuanced and incremental that I'm sure I'll always be confused about whether I'm in compliance. Is this the week I'm allowed to be part of a 50-percent-capacity crowd or are we up to 75 percent? May I linger in the restaurant over a second cup of coffee, and is it on Thursday or Friday when I'm not allowed to wear yellow?

His slogan could use some work, too.

"Hunker Down Hoosiers" was a marvelous slogan for his stay-at-home order, despite the grammatically appalling missing comma. "Hunker" calls to mind "bunker" and makes us think of bravely banding together as the enemy virus bombs rain down on us.

But "Back on Track" is really lame as a recovery slogan. Back from where? The detour we intentionally drove onto? Frankly, this is the "Restart Your Engines" of post-virus catchphrases.

This state will never get anywhere, on tourism or pandemics or anything else, unless we get this jingle problem whipped. A good slogan is everything.

Honest to goodness.

Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review, is winner of the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer. Morris, as opinion editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, was named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Contact him at leo.edits@yahoo.com.

Trump's hamfisted order to reopen meat plants endangers workers

If you work in a meatpacking plant, by order of President Trump you are officially considered less essential than the steak you're cutting up. You have to risk being infected with the deadly coronavirus so that those of us who can stay home — and still get paid — may continue to enjoy our hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken wings.

Trump stubbornly refused to use his executive powers to compel the production of personal protective equipment, like masks and gowns, for front-line medical workers. He boasts about the chummy "partnerships" he supposedly brokered with corporate bigwigs to acquire ventilators and to launch a still-inadequate testing program.

But when meat processing company executives began speaking out about the danger dire outbreaks of COVID-19 posed to their business, our meatloaf-loving president almost immediately invoked the Defense Production Act to force the plants to stay open — but not to guarantee that employees will be kept safe.

Whose lives are put at risk by the order Trump issued Tuesday? Low-income workers — many of them black or brown, many of them immigrants — who cannot afford to lose their jobs and who now must put their health at risk to stay employed.

On the White House website, Trump declared the meatpacking plants part of the nation's "critical infrastructure" and said that "closure of any of these plants could disrupt our food supply and detrimentally impact our hardworking farmers and ranchers." Make no mistake: he was designating the workers in these protein factories not essential, but expendable.

Perversely, Trump had to order the plants to remain open because some have already become hotbeds of COVID-19.

Scores of such plants, including some truly enormous facilities, have reported virus outbreaks over the past two months. Some have had to close. The Des Moines Register reported Wednesday that up to one-third of U.S. meatpacking capacity may currently be offline. Just three of the shuttered plants — Tyson Fresh Meats in Waterloo, Iowa; Smithfield Foods in Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and JBS Pork Processing in Worthington, Minnesota — together account for about 15 percent of U.S. pork production.

The Tyson plant offers an instructive case study. Waterloo, a small city of about 68,000 situated northeast of Des Moines, is the seat of Black Hawk County. Of more than 1,300 cases in the county, which has seen more people diagnosed with COVID-19 than anywhere else in Iowa, 90 percent are connected in some way to the plant.

Iowa's Republican governor, Kim Reynolds, is allowing most of the state to begin a partial reopening on May 1. Like the other states prematurely trying to send citizens back to work, Iowa does not come close to meeting the goals of declining infections set out in the Trump administration's guidelines. Reynolds, however, is one of a smaller number of governors who have announced that furloughed workers who are told to resume their jobs and refuse to do so — even out of justified fear for their health and that of their families — will have their unemployment benefits cut off.

Maintaining an adequate flow of food to grocery stores and still-functioning restaurants is necessary. But the meat industry, which has been for decades criticized for its working conditions, turns out to be an ideal environment for spreading the highly contagious coronavirus. Because of the way workers are stationed, and because of the high speed at which processing lines are designed to run, it is hard to implement social distancing without upending the entire production process.

If the fight against COVID-19 is a war, workers ordered to go back into these plants have every right to feel like cannon fodder.

It comes as no surprise that the Trump administration, with its reflexively plutocratic orientation, would think nothing of sending poor, powerless workers into danger. It's fully in character. But it's also really stupid.

The virus does not respect property lines or wait to infect people until they've clocked out. A cluster of infections at a plant quickly spills out into the larger community. Black Hawk County Sheriff Tony Thompson said Wednesday that he is seeing cases at long-term care facilities that health officials have traced back to the Tyson plant. He said that two of his employees who work at the county jail have tested positive — a kitchen worker whose roommate works at Tyson and a nurse.

Trump could have saved lives by issuing tough, specific, mandatory requirements for meat processors to slow down their lines, institute proper social distancing, frequently shut down plants for deep cleaning and repeatedly test all workers to isolate the infected. But no: That would have meant asking the nation to survive on fewer bacon cheeseburgers for a while. Bon appetit!

Eugene Robinson's email address is eugene.robinson@washpost.com.

Teen chafes under dad's strict style of parenting

DEAR ABBY: I am a teenage girl in an average family. I started getting interested in LGBTQ+ and other social justice topics when I was in fifth grade.

Since then, I have realized that, among other things, I'm a lesbian, a liberal and an atheist. This wouldn't be a problem, but my father hates many of the things I am or stand for. He's an extremely conservative, Christian, gun-rights person, and he wants me and my brothers to join the military. He constantly pushes me to be the best that I can be, and I try, but his idea of "best" is very different from mine.

I have several mental problems, which resulted in me getting special privileges in school. I use them whenever I can, but it is never enough for him. He keeps searching through my grade book until he finds something new for me to do, regardless of the date it was assigned or whether it can be graded anymore.

I have various restrictions on my use of technology, so I can barely contact my friends. It has gotten to the point that I am worried about when I come out and looking forward to college just so I can get away. Please tell me what to do in the meantime because college is five years away. — Waiting In Virginia

DEAR WAITING: You and your dad have very different outlooks on life, and that's OK. That said, you must live under his roof for the next five years, so be diplomatic and keep some of your opinions to yourself as long as possible.

You may think your father is heavy-handed in parenting you, but has it occurred to you that when he goes through your grade book, he's trying to make sure you know how to work all the problems in it? Placing restrictions on a minor's use of technology is intelligent parenting, at least for someone just entering her teens. Please try to cut him some slack. Recognize there is a bright future ahead of you if you concentrate on your studies to the best of your ability and buckle down now.

DEAR ABBY: My 32-year-old son, "Jerry," wanted to propose to his girlfriend, but didn't have money for a ring. My husband offered him my original engagement ring, assuming for some reason (or maybe just not thinking) that my old ring didn't hold sentimental value to me, although I wore that 1/3-carat diamond every day for 32 years before getting a new, larger one.

After the ring was offered, I felt forced to let him have it. I knew it wouldn't fit his girlfriend, and I also didn't think she would settle for such a small diamond, but I figured he would have the diamond put into a setting that fit her. I got over my feeling of loss knowing he would use the ring.

Well, he didn't. He gave her MY ring, and then they went out and charged a nice-sized engagement ring that she selected. My original ring now hangs on a chain in her jewelry box. Should I ask for my ring back? — Means A Lot In Texas

DEAR MEANS A LOT: Because your first engagement ring is not being used as intended and was only a place holder until your son's fiancee got what she really wanted, I see no reason why you shouldn't ask, and I also see no reason why she shouldn't graciously comply.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

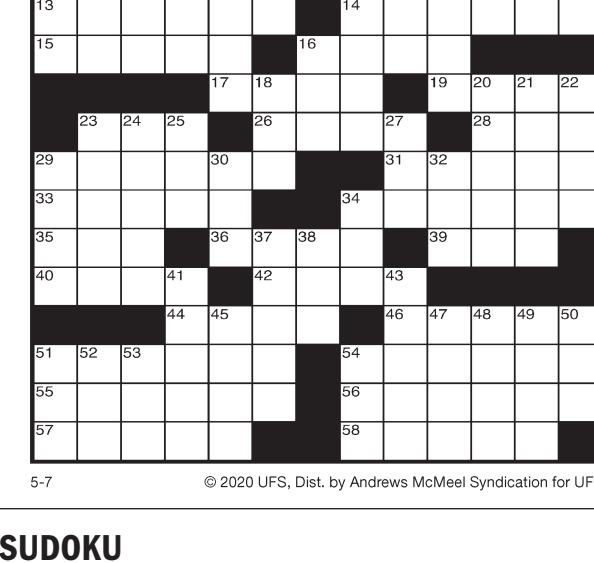
- 1 Male duck
- 6 Necessary task
- 11 Scat! (2 wds.)
- 12 Spurred on
- 13 Abate
- 14 Blurred
- 15 Revise
- 16 Oater showdown
- 17 All, in combos
- 19 Hockey's — Mikita
- 23 Mineral spring
- 26 Loan figure
- 28 Coloration
- 29 Eddies
- 31 Stops up
- 33 And so
- 34 Hangmen's loops
- 35 Type of poem
- 36 News, briefly
- 39 Part of mpg
- 40 Nuisance
- 42 Bireme movers
- 44 Norse god of warfare

DOWN

- 1 Believe
- 2 Rev the engine
- 3 Egyptian solar deity
- 4 Pal, slangily
- 5 Summer in Quebec
- 6 Approach
- 7 Drives a semi
- 8 Strange 9 Gas pump abbr.
- 10 Ben & Jerry rival
- 11 Lingerie buy
- 12 NASA outfit (hyph.)
- 16 Chromosome
- 30 Luau souvenir
- 32 Hack off
- 34 Mail motto word
- 37 Deafening
- 46 Retail giant
- 48 Constantly
- 49 Camping gear
- 50 Matisse piece
- 51 What —
- 52 Push to the limit
- 53 Make a choice
- 54 Mork's planet

Answer to Previous Puzzle

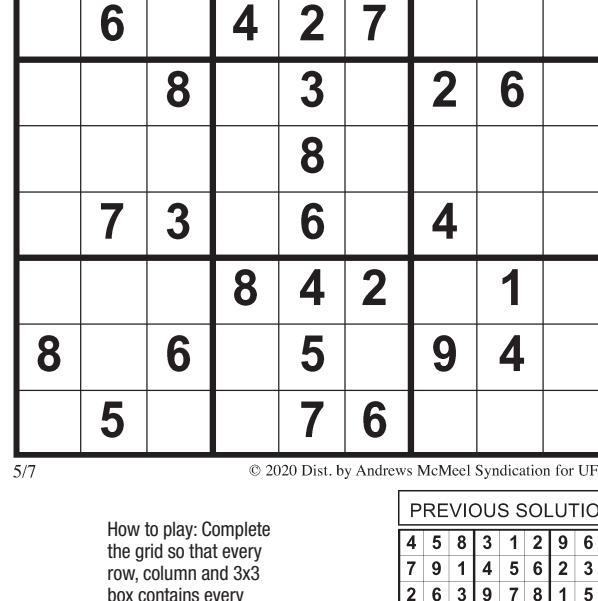
N	E	S	T	C	U	R	S	E	
B	E	L	I	E	F	U	P	R	O
A	R	M	A	D	A	S	A	D	D
R	O	O	U	M	Y	U	U	S	E



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★



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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

4	5	8	3	1	2	9	6	7
7	9	1	4	5	6	2	3	8
2	6	3	9	7	8	1	5	4
9	4	7	5	3	1	6	8	2
8	1	6	2	9	4	5	7	3
3	2	5	6	8	7	4	9	1
6	3	2	8	4	9	7	1	5
5	7	9	1	2	3	8	4	6
1	8	4	7	6	5	3	2	9

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CNLIG

LNKTE

ISTAUH

CCNIES

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

These are all I can find to burn.

I hope we have everything. It's a long way back to the city.

CAMPERS AT THE REMOTE CAMPGROUND WERE ABLE TO BUILD A CAMPFIRE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app. Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Answer here:  THE 

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BLEND SHOVE INVENT LUXURY

Answer: When boxer George Foreman started promoting his grill, he became a — "SELL-EBRITY"

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Answer here:  THE 

(Answers tomorrow)

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Answer here: THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles

New campus sexual assault rules bolster rights of accused

By COLLIN BINKLEY

Associated Press

The U.S. Education Department on Wednesday finalized campus sexual assault rules that bolster the rights of the accused, reduce legal liabilities for schools and colleges, and narrow the scope of cases schools will be required to investigate.

The change announced by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos reshapes the way the nation's schools respond to complaints of sexual misconduct. It is meant to replace policies from the Obama administration that DeVos previously revoked, saying they pressured schools to deny the rights of accused students.

"Today we release a final rule that recognizes we can continue to combat sexual misconduct without abandoning our core values of fairness, presumption of innocence and due process," she said. "This empowers survivors with more tools than ever before."

Under the new rules, the definition of sexual harassment is narrowed to include only misconduct that is "so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive" that it effectively denies the victim access to the school's education programs. The rules add dating violence, domestic violence and stalking to the definition of sexual harassment.

The Obama administra-

tion, by contrast, used a wider definition that included a range of conduct that "interferes with or limits" a student's access to the school. It said that could include "unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature."

DeVos' policy adds new measures intended to make sure students accused of sexual misconduct are judged fairly in campus disciplinary hearings. Students on both sides must be given equal access to evidence gathered in the school's investigation and be allowed to bring an adviser, which can be a lawyer, to the proceedings.

Chief among the changes is a policy requiring colleges to allow students on both sides of a case to question one another during live campus hearings. The questioning would be done through representatives to avoid direct confrontation, but opponents have said it's a cruel policy that forces victims to relive the trauma of sexual violence.

Democrats and education groups had asked DeVos to delay any changes until after the coronavirus pandemic, saying colleges don't have time to implement new federal rules while they respond to the crisis.

Opponents quickly condemned the policy and its timing. The National Wom-

en's Law Center, a Washington advocacy group, said releasing the rules now "unveils a disturbing set of priorities." The group said it plans to challenge the new policy in court.

"If this rule goes into effect, survivors will be denied their civil rights and will get the message loud and clear that there is no point in reporting assault," said Fatima Goss Graves, the group's president and CEO. "We refuse to go back to the days when rape and harassment in schools were ignored and swept under the rug."

Several of the rules cement changes that advocates of accused students have long been calling for. Parents and lawyers say that, in the past, federal rules encouraged schools to take hasty and unfairly harsh action against any student accused of sexual misconduct.

For colleges, the new policy narrows the type of complaints they will be required to investigate. It orders colleges to pursue cases only if they're reported to certain campus officials, and it says schools can choose whether to handle cases in off-campus areas that are outside their "programs or activities."

The Obama administration encouraged schools to handle complaints that arose beyond their borders, and it required them to address any misconduct that the school "knows or reasonably should

know" about.

Under the new rules, the Education Department will also use a different standard to determine if schools responded appropriately to a student's complaint. Colleges will be held accountable, the rule says, if it's found that they acted with "deliberate indifference" toward the allegation.

DeVos' rules effectively tell the nation's schools how to apply the 1972 federal law known as Title IX, which bars discrimination based on sex in education. It applies to colleges and universities, along with primary and secondary schools.

For years, schools relied on a series of letters issued by the Obama administration telling them how to respond to complaints. Missteps could bring federal investigations, with penalties as high as a total loss of federal funding.

Advocacy groups for victims say the Obama rules forced schools to stop sweeping the issue under the rug, while those supporting accused students said it tipped the scales in favor of accusers. Some colleges complained that the rules were too complex and could be overly burdensome.

DeVos proposed her new policy in 2018 and opened it for public comment. The proposal drew more than 120,000 comments, more than any other proposal in the department's history.

Lawsuit on behalf of Missouri meat plant workers dismissed

By JIM SALTER

Associated Press

O'FALLON, Mo. — A federal judge dismissed a lawsuit filed on behalf of employees at a rural Missouri meatpacking facility, ruling that oversight of how the plant adheres to guidance aimed at slowing the spread of the coronavirus falls to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, not the courts.

U.S. District Judge Greg Kays issued his 24-page ruling Tuesday in favor of Smithfield Foods. A lawsuit on behalf of workers at Smithfield's pork processing plant in Milan, Missouri, sought an injunction requiring the plant to abide by federal guidelines.

The lawsuit accused Virginia-based Smithfield of not doing enough to protect workers from the coronavirus.

"Plaintiffs are naturally concerned for their health and the health of their community in these unprecedented times," Kays wrote. "The Court takes their concern seriously. Nevertheless, the Court cannot ignore the USDA's and OSHA's authority over compliance ... or the significant steps Smithfield has taken to reduce the risk of a COVID-19 outbreak at the Plant."

The attorney for the workers, David Muraskin, didn't rule out an appeal

but said the lawsuit itself prompted several changes at the plant, including better spacing of employees, additional cleaning and sanitizing, and an improved sick leave policy that means workers don't feel obligated to come to work if they have symptoms of the coronavirus.

"This worker power is starting to be effective," Muraskin said Wednesday. "Workers will organize and they will protest and when necessary they will sue to protect themselves because these companies need to be held to account."

Email messages seeking comment from Smithfield were not immediately returned.

The Milan plant has not seen an outbreak of COVID-19. Just one case has been reported in Sullivan County, where the plant is located.

But outbreaks have become common at other meat plants across the U.S., infecting thousands of workers, leading to the closure of some plants and prompting meat shortages.

President Donald Trump issued an executive order last week requiring meatpacking plants to stay open. The order was widely seen as giving processors protection from liability for workers who become sick on the job, and it came after the Missouri lawsuit against Smithfield Foods.

PULSE

From page A1

areas restricted to 25 percent capacity. Restaurants and bars that serve food may open starting Monday, May 11 at 50 percent capacity, but bar seating will remain closed. Personal services such as hair salons, barbershops, nail salons, spas and tattoo parlors also may open Monday, May 11 by appointment only and must follow social distancing guidelines. Starting Friday, May 8, for all of the state's counties, indoor worship services may also convene, following specific social distancing guidelines — while those 65 and older and those at elevated risk will be asked to stay home. For more information, visit BackOn Track.in.gov.

ISDH offering drive-thru testing clinics this week across the state

All testing sites will be open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Saturday, May 9. Locations include Jefferson High School, 1801 S. 18th St., Lafayette; First Baptist Church, 709 S. Memorial Drive, New Castle; Plymouth High School, #1 Big Red Drive, Plymouth; and Seymour High School, 1350 W. Second St., Seymour.

Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunity for May 13

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 13 at Richvalley Community Center, 56 W. Mill St.

Farmers market season set to begin May 16

The Downtown Wabash Farmers Market opens from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 16 in the Honeywell Center/Wabash Elk's Parking Lot. The market occurs every Saturday through Sept. 26. If you are interested in becoming a vendor or volunteering at the event, call 260-563-0975 or visit www.wabashmarketplace.org.

Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunity for May 19

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 19 at First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass St.

Online absentee ballot applications must be completed, received by May 21

Any registered voter may request an absentee ballot for the June 2 Primary Election. To vote absentee-by-mail, voters

who qualify must complete an absentee-by-mail application. These are available online at www.IndianaVoters.com. Voters may also submit their request by mail, email or fax. The application must be completed and received by the county election board or the Indiana Election Division by May 21. After an application has been received, the voter will be mailed a Primary Election ballot. The voter must then complete the ballot, and return it to the county election board by noon Election Day, June 2.

Mural festival seeks local artists

Make It Your Own Mural Fest, organized by the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne, is asking artists to apply for the Artist and Mentorship Programs as part of the 11-day mural festival scheduled for Sept. 8 to 18. Make It Your Own Mural Fest is also searching for volunteers for the Mentorship Program. Applications are available at www.NElmuralfestival.com and are open through the end of May.

Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunity for June 2

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 2 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 2 at the Wabash County YMCA, 500 S. Cass St.

25th annual WACCY golf outing prepares to tee off

Registration is now open for Grow Wabash County's 25th Annual WACCY Golf Outing, scheduled for Wednesday, June 3 at the Honeywell Public Golf Course. Grow Wabash County has also scheduled a back-up date of Thursday, July 30 in the case that the social distancing recommendations are still in effect come June. Registration is \$360 per four-person team. For more information, visit www.growwabashcounty.com/events, email marketing@growwabashcounty.com or call 260-563-5258.

Wabash Kiwanis Club Pancake Day officially rescheduled

The Wabash Kiwanis Club's annual Pancake Day has been rescheduled to Saturday, June 6 at the Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds. The event's Pancake Eating Contest will take place at noon. Pancakes, with or without blueberries, will be available, along with sausages and refreshments. Tickets will be \$7 in advance

for adults 13 and older and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 and younger. Sponsorship opportunities for businesses are available by emailing Kiwanian Donna Siders at donnasiders@hotmail.com or calling 260-571-1892. For more information, email keaffaberm@msdwc.k12.in.us.

Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunity for June 6

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 6 at Scotty's Bar, 780 Manchester Ave.

Dia De Lagro rescheduled due to COVID-19 concerns

Dia De Lagro, which was originally set for Tuesday, May 5, has been rescheduled to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, June 13 at Eads Barn, 4725 E. 200 North, Urbana.

Comedian and Wabash County celebrity, Michael Palascak, is set to bring laughter to Lagro as the headliner of the event, which will benefit the revitalization of downtown Lagro. Appetizers, cocktails, singer Kimberly Rutledge and Emcee Reed Christiansen are set to begin at 5:30 p.m. A Mexican-themed dinner, catered by Gallery 64, will begin at 6 p.m. with Palascak taking the stage at 7 p.m. Tickets for the event are \$75 each, \$125 per couple or \$500 for a table of eight. For more information, visit lagrocanalfoundation.com. Those interested in donating prizes for the silent auction or would like to become a main sponsor may email lagrocanalfoundation@gmail.com. For more information, email aeads4725@gmail.com or call 260-571-2428.

Registration for annual Dam to Dam Century Ride and new triathlon now open

Visit Wabash County has announced registration for the Dam to Dam Century Ride and the DAM(N)MAN! triathlon is now open. D!M! will take place on the same day as the Dam to Dam Century Ride — Sunday, Sept. 13 — and will incorporate the newest and longest 150-mile bike route, plus a 3.1-mile swim and will end with a 31-mile run. The early bird registration fee for the bike ride is \$40 through May 31, however, attendees can use promo code D2DSAVE10 to save \$10 for a limited time. The price increases to \$50 beginning June 1. The registration fee for the triathlon is \$135, however, participants can use promo code DMSAVE40

to save \$40 for a limited time. For more information, visit www.visitwabashcounty.com/adventure-series or call 260-563-7171.

Indiana 105 bridge at Salamonie Lake closed

Salamonie Lost Bridge West and East state recreation areas are accessible only from the south. To access Indiana 105 on the north side of the bridge, from the south of the bridge heading north on Indiana 105, the official detour will be Indiana 124 to Indiana 9 to Highway 24. The entire bridge deck will be removed and replaced. The bridge, and road, is scheduled to re-open Sunday, Nov. 15.

Closings announced due to COVID-19 concerns

■ Access Youth Center: All scheduled after school and weekend programming is canceled until further notice.

■ BMV: Closed until further notice. The phone number is 888-692-6841 and the lines are open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. For more information, visit www.in.gov/bmv/4363.htm.

■ Community Foundation of Wabash County: Individuals with questions may email patty@cfwabash.org or julie@cfwabash.org, or call 260-982-4824.

■ Division of Family Resources: Offices closed until further notice. Visit the FSSA benefits portal at www.fssabenefits.in.gov. DFR staff is available by phone at 800-403-0864 to provide customer service from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Clients may also continue to send documents to DFR via mail at P.O. Box 1810, Marion, IN 46952.

■ Farm Service Agency: County offices are open in Indiana by phone appointment only until further notice, and staff is available to continue helping agricultural producers with program signups, loan servicing and other important actions. Call 260-563-7486.

■ Honeywell Foundation: All events at foundation properties including the Honeywell Center, Honeywell House, Eagles Theatre, Dr. James Ford Historic Home and Charley Creek Gardens are suspended until further notice.

■ Living Well in Wabash County: The Community Cupboard pantry will operate as a drive-through with regular pantry hours, which are from 3 to 5 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays; closed Wednesdays; and open from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays. Senior

lunches at Winchester Senior Center will be operated as a drive-through at the front door of the senior center from 11 to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. Lunch reservations continue to require 48 business hours of reservations. Seniors age 60 and older wanting a lunch must call Winchester Senior Center at 260-563-4475. North Manchester Public Library: Library patrons may place material requests online on the library website by visiting www.nman.lib.in.us or by calling 260-982-4773. The first pick up day will be Monday, May 11 from noon to 4 p.m. The library will loan out books, DVDs, laptops, WiFi hotspots and iPads to all card-holding patrons. Patrons will be limited to 10 items per car. Due dates and fines are as follows: Books: Three-week check out, no late fees; DVDs: Three days for new DVDs (with yellow tape), one week for old DVDs (without yellow tape) and a \$5 late fee per day, per item; WiFi hotspots: One-week check out and a \$5 late fee per day; and Laptops and iPads: 24-hour check out, \$25 late fee per day. Pick Up days will from noon to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Any requested items will be available for pick up on the next pick up day.

■ The North Manchester Center for History: Temporarily closed to the public. The Crossroads: Change in Rural America exhibit is available through video on the NHCH Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NorthManchesterHistory.

■ Wabash City Hall: The public will be restricted from entering the building unless they have a pre-arranged appointment and they must wear a face mask when they come into the building. Employees must wear a mask when interacting with the public also. Employees must maintain social distancing while at work and take all safety precautions for sanitation. Citizens should visit www.cityofwabash.com to pay bills for wastewater, ambulance billing and building department permits. City court offers pay by phone services. Questions regarding COVID-19 can also be directed to the new email address at covid19info@cityofwabash.com. Anyone with questions should call 260-274-1485 or email mayor@cityofwabash.com.

■ Wabash Circuit and Superior Courts and Court Services (Probation and Community Corrections divisions): Closed to the public Wednesdays and Fridays.

■ Wabash County Courthouse and Wabash County Health Department: Payments and other documents for these offices may be placed in a large locked box located just inside

the west basement door of the courthouse. For more information, visit www.wabashcounty.in.gov or call the Courthouse at 260-563-0661 ext. 1222.

■ Wabash County Judicial Center: A drop box is located outside, near the top of the stairs, for depositing payments and documents. The Wabash County Elections office may be reached at 260-563-0661 ext. 1238, Wabash County Circuit Court at 260-563-0661 ext. 1241, Wabash County Superior Court at 260-563-0661 ext. 1254, Wabash County Court Services at 260-563-8466 ext. 1276, Judicial Annex Court Security: 260-563-0661 ext. 1261 and Wabash County Clerk of the Courts: 260-563-0661 ext. 1239.

■ Wabash County Museum: Temporarily closed until further notice.

■ Wabash County Solid Waste Management District: Offices and warehouse closed to the public until further notice. 24/7 drop sites at 1101 Manchester Ave. and at the Hardware in North Manchester will remain open for regular recycling. For more information, call 260-563-7649.

Food

Pantry finds: Chipotle chiles in abodo

By LYNDY BALSLEV

Chipotles in adobo sauce are one of my go-to ingredients when I make a marinade or barbecue sauce. You can find chipotles in adobo in the international or Mexican section of your supermarket. I usually buy a few cans at a time, and I dove into my stash for this recipe.

Chipotles in adobo are a flavor bomb, packed with a soupy mix of whole smoked and dried jalapenos that are rehydrated and canned in a tangy, sweet tomato sauce. A little dollop adds smoky flavor and heat to robust marinades, sauces and stews. In this recipe, the chiles add essential flavor to the chicken marinade, which does double-duty as a basting sauce.

When using the chipotles, remember that the whole chiles have a good amount of heat, while the tomato sauce is milder and slightly sweet. So, spoon a balance of whole chiles with sauce in the food processor when making this recipe. Alternatively, separately process the entire can of chiles to get a smoother puree with a balance of heat and sweet.

Either way, you won't use the entire can, so don't throw out the leftovers! They can easily be stored for future use. Transfer to a glass container and refrigerate for up to one month, or freeze for up to six months. This way you'll have your own stash for dipping into.

In this recipe, I cut the chicken into large chunks to expose more edges to the marinade and drive in flavor. I also like to accompany the salad with hummus, which is optional.

Chipotle Chicken and Couscous Salad

Active Time: 30 minutes
Total Time: 30 minutes, plus marinating time

Yield: Serves: 4 to 5

Marinade:

1/4 cup chipotles in adobo sauce
2 garlic cloves, chopped
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
1 tablespoon brown sugar
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon salt
2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts or thighs, cut in 2- to 3-inch chunks

Couscous Salad:

1 1/2 cups whole-wheat couscous
1 1/4 cups warm water
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon salt, or more to taste
1 small red bell pepper, seeded and finely diced
1 small jalapeno, seeded, finely diced
1/2 small red onion, finely chopped, about 1/4 cup
1 garlic clove, minced
1/2 cup mint leaves, chopped, plus extra for garnish
1/2 cup cilantro leaves, chopped, plus extra for garnish
1/2 teaspoon Tabasco, or to taste
1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
Lemon wedges for serving

Marinate the chicken:

Process all of the marinade ingredients in a food processor until smooth. Reserve 2 to 3 tablespoons for basting. Place the chicken in a medium bowl. Add the remaining marinade and turn the chicken to thoroughly coat. Cover and refrigerate at least one hour or up to 24 hours.

Make the couscous:

Place the couscous in a large bowl. Add the water, lemon juice, olive oil, cumin and salt and stir once to blend. Cover the bowl and let stand until



Provided photo by Lynda Balslev for Tasteof

Chipotles in adobo are a flavor bomb, packed with a soupy mix of whole smoked and dried jalapenos that are rehydrated and canned in a tangy, sweet tomato sauce.

all of the liquid is absorbed, about 10 minutes. Fluff the couscous with a fork. Add the remaining ingredients and gently mix to combine. Taste for salt and seasoning.

Preheat the oven broiler

(or prepare the grill). Remove the chicken from the marinade and discard the marinade. Broil or grill over direct medium heat until the chicken is charred and beginning to crisp in spots and

thoroughly cooked through, basting with some of the reserved marinade, 10 to 14 minutes, depending on the thickness of the meat. (The internal temperature should register 165 degrees with a

meat thermometer when fully cooked.)

Spread the couscous on a serving platter and arrange the chicken on top. Garnish with fresh mint and/or cilantro. Serve with lemon wedges.



Provided photo

The flavors of Morocco – spice, lemons, and olives – shine through in this easy, nutritious bowl.

Moroccan chickpea sorghum bowl

By SHARON PALMER,
MSFS, RDN

There's nothing quite like a meal bowl, filled with the goodness of whole grains, pulses, and roasted vegetables. The flavors of Morocco – spice, lemons, and olives – shine through in this easy, nutritious bowl. It's perfect for meal prep – prepare this vegan, gluten-free recipe and pack it up for several healthy meals all week long. Or serve it for your next family meal as a one-dish wonder.

Ingredients

2 cups cooked whole grain sorghum
1 medium red onion, sliced into thin wedges
1 medium red bell pepper, sliced into thin strips
3 small carrots (red, purple, orange, yellow, or white), sliced
8 ounces Brussels sprouts, sliced in half vertically
1 15-ounce can chickpeas, rinsed, drained
2 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
1 1/2 Tbsp. ras el hanout (Moroccan spice blend, see directions below)
2 garlic cloves, minced
Pinch salt (optional)
2 cups chopped greens (i.e., kale, spinach, arugula leaves)

12 black olives (i.e., Kalamata, Picholine, Nicoise), rinsed, drained

Makes 4 servings (1 cup). Per serving: 410 calories, 12 g total fat (1.5 g saturated fat, 0 g trans fat), 0 mg cholesterol, 67 g carbohydrates, 16 g protein, 13 g dietary fiber, 380 mg sodium, 12 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

Directions

Cook sorghum according to package directions.

While sorghum is cooking, preheat oven to 375 F.

Arrange rows of sliced red onions, sliced red bell pepper, sliced carrots, halved Brussels sprouts, and chickpeas on a baking sheet (see picture).

Make the vinaigrette by whisking together olive oil, lemon juice, ras el hanout, garlic, and salt (optional) in a small dish.

Drizzle the vinaigrette evenly over the vegetables and chickpeas in the baking sheet.

Place on the top rack of the oven and roast for about 45 minutes, until vegetables are tender and golden brown.

Remove vegetables from oven.

To make each large individual bowl (makes 4 bowls): In each bowl, arrange 1/2 cup cooked sorghum on one side, and 1/2 cup greens on the other side. On each bowl, ar-

range on top of the sorghum and greens the following: 1/4 of the onions, 1/4 of the bell pepper, 1/4 of the carrots, 1/4 of the Brussels sprouts, 1/4 of the chickpeas, and 3 black olives.

Serve immediately.

Notes

You can meal prep this recipe by making 4 individual servings and place in airtight containers to use up within 5 days. You can also make this recipe into a family-style meal by following the instructions, but serving it in one large bowl rather than 4 individual bowls.

Ras el hanout is a Moroccan spice blend available in specialty spice and gourmet stores and online shops. You can make it yourself by mixing:

1 teaspoon ground cumin, 1 teaspoon ground ginger, 1 teaspoon ground turmeric, 1 teaspoon paprika, 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon, 1/2 teaspoon ground coriander, 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper, 1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom, 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg, and 1/4 teaspoon of ground cloves. Store in an airtight container.

Sharon Palmer, RDN, The Plant-Powered Dietitian, is a Los Angeles-based, award-winning food and nutrition writer, plant-based food expert, and author of *Plant-Powered for Life* and *The Plant-Powered Diet*.

Wabash Plain Dealer



Community Marketing Grant

We are deeply committed to the community

The Wabash Plain Dealer has established a \$150,000 fund to help local business get back to full strength by subsidizing their marketing through matching grants. Area businesses can now apply for a grant to help them recover from the effects of the coronavirus crisis.

How Will It Work for My Business?

The fund is open to all locally owned and operated businesses impacted by the coronavirus, whether or not they are current advertisers. Grant money can be used for local Wabash Plain Dealer print newspaper and special product advertising between April 28 and June 30, 2020. Grants are available for a minimum of \$200 and a maximum of \$5,000 of matching funds each month. Eg: spend \$200 in advertising, we match with a grant of \$200 additional advertising dollars to equal \$400.

How Do I Apply?

To apply for a dollar for dollar matching advertising grant, applications must be submitted at:

https://www.wabashplaindealer.com/site/forms/advertising_match/

click on the "How Do I?" tab and Apply for a "Matching Advertising Grant". The Wabash Plain Dealer will respond within 48 hours. A community newspaper is only ever as strong as the community it serves. We know businesses and workers are hurting, we're hurting too. But if we can pull together as a community, we can weather this.

Wabash Plain Dealer

Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.